

**Mansfield Advisory Committee on the Needs of
Persons with Disabilities
February 28, 2012
Audrey P. Beck Building, Conference Room B**

Present: Gloria Bent, Jane Blanshard, Kathy Easley (staff), Fred Goetz, Kevin Grunwald (staff), Donna Korbel, Jennifer Tanner, Stephanie Holinko

Regrets: Wade Gibbs

I. CALL TO ORDER at 2:35 by committee vice chair, Jennifer Tanner

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 24, 2012 meeting were approved (Moved J. Blanshard, seconded J. Tanner)

III. NEW BUSINESS

Welcome to Stephanie Holinko who was recently appointed to the committee by the town council.

Presentation by Connecticut Family Empowerment Network

G. Bent noted that a representative from the Family Empowerment Network will be in Mansfield on April 2, 2012 for a presentation on legislative action underway this session which will impact services to people with developmental disabilities. The event will be held at the Buchanan Auditorium and begin at 7 p.m. The speaker will also talk about advocacy strategies. Discussion followed on publicity efforts. K. Easley suggested we contact the UConn Center for Students with Disabilities to help disseminate information and perhaps co-sponsor. K. Grunwald suggested we also

contact the Special Services Co-coordinator at E.O. Smith High School. G. Bent will follow up.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of ADA Grievance:

K. Grunwald has drafted a response, which is being reviewed by the town attorney, Dennis O'Brien.

Accessibility issues previously identified:

Letter to Mansfield Supply: A response has been received from Mansfield Supply indicating a willingness to change the entrance if the town will allow a partial modification. K. Grunwald will talk with the town building inspector to see what the ramifications would be for the store if they undertook a modification.

Pull cords in restrooms:

Mike Nintean responded to the question about the lack of pull cords in the public restrooms in town hall. Pull cords are required if the restroom only accommodates one person.

Post Office access:

The lack of automatic doors at the Storrs post office was discussed and it was noted that federal buildings are exempt from ADA legislation. K. Grunwald will draft a letter to Representative Joe Courtney.

Transportation concerns:

K. Grunwald shared the town's list of transportation improvement needs. He noted that Linda Painter would be the staff person to speak to which improvements from the list are underway. He will invite her to attend the committee's next meeting.

Adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Bent, recording secretary